

## **Additional Information**

### **Reporting!**

The HSEES program is continually working on efforts to increase reporting sources and to decrease the amount of time it takes to receive the reports. The HSEES goal is to have reports entered into the system within 48 hours of an event. You can email, fax (801) 538-6564 or go to our website <http://www.health.state.ut.us/els/epidemiology/envepi/hsees> to report a release.

### **What HSEES can do for you!**

HSEES, can provide data to your company for assistance in creating evacuation or contingency plans, or just general information for your employees to increase knowledge toward decreasing injuries. Your company can request presentations, pamphlets, fact sheets, or reports, by calling the HSEES coordinator at (801) 538-6191 or by logging onto our website, <http://health.utah.gov/els/epidemiology/envepi/>.

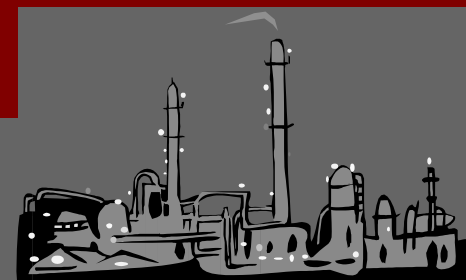
### **Utah Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance**

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## **Hazardous Releases and Industries in Utah**



### **Utah Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance**

## The HSEES Program

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) participates in the Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) Program funded by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Information regarding spills and releases of hazardous substances are reported to the HSEES program. The reported data are analyzed and risk factors are determined. Prevention strategies are developed to minimize the risk of exposure to the public when/if hazardous releases occur.



The HSEES system was set up to collect and analyze information about releases of hazardous substances that need to be cleaned up or neutralized according to federal, state, or local law, as well as threatened releases that result in a public health action such as an evacuation. The goal of HSEES is to reduce the injury and death that result from hazardous substances events, which are experienced by first responders, employees, and the general public.

Occasionally data is incomplete or unknown at the time we receive data. Our program may eventually need to contact your company for additional information.

## Data Collection

- **Reporting agencies :** The UDOH receives data from various sources, which include the National Response Center, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Transportation, and the Utah Poison Control Center.

### Data captured by HSEES

- Chemical name and quantity.
- Time, date, and location of release.
- Type of release (spill, air emission, etc.).
- Event type (fixed facility or transportation related events).
- Environmental sampling and follow-up health activities.
- NAICS (National American Industry Classification System) codes.
- Information on injured persons: age, gender, type, and extent of injuries, distance from spill, population group, (employee, general public, responder, student), and type of protective equipment used.
- Evacuation and in-place sheltering.
- Location and population information.
- Information about contingency plans.

### How is the data used?

- Identify risk factors
- Develop risk-reduction strategies
- Provide summary data to first responders, employers, and general public.
- Identify commonly released chemicals
- Educate about most commonly released chemicals
- Provide presentations on the findings

## Data Analysis

During 2002-2003, there were 920 total events that met the criteria for entrance into the HSEES system. Of those, 693 were fixed facility events and 227 were transportation related events. There were 1,939 total substances either released or threatened to be released in those events. The largest proportion of HSEES events were associated with the transportation industry with 355 and the wholesale industry with 345. Although, during the 2002-2003 period the largest proportion of events with injuries occurred in the manufacturing industry with 41 victims. This was followed by the professional services industry with 35.

The various substances reported are grouped into 16 categories. The categories most commonly involved in fixed-facility events were other inorganic substances (755), volatile organic compounds (398), and oxy organics (323).

There were 108 victims involved in 16 events. All 108 victims were injured in fixed-facility events. Employees (82) constituted the largest proportion of those injured followed by responders (20), members of the general public (5) and students (1).

